DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 476 911 PS 031 280

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TITLE	Age Appropriate Play: The First Four Years. Volume 1-3 Facilitator's Guide with Parent and Caregiver Handouts. [Videotapes].
PUB DATE	2002-00-00
NOTE	16p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Injoy Videos, 1435 Yarmouth Avenue, Suite 102-G1, Boulder, CO 80304 ($99.95, each volume; $249.85, for all three volumes). Tel: 800-326-2082 (Toll Free); Tel: 303-447-2082; Fax: 303-449-8788; email: custserv@injoyvideos.com; Web site: http://www.injoyvideos.com.
PUB TYPE	Guides - Non-Classroom (055) -- Non-Print Media (100) -- Multilingual/Bilingual Materials (171)
LANGUAGE	English, Spanish
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available From EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Caregiver Child Relationship; Caregiver Training; *Child Care; Child Development; *Child Safety; *Developmentally Appropriate Practices; *Infants; Multilingual Materials ; Parent Child Relationship; Parent Education; Parent Materials; *Play; Pretend Play; *Toddlers; Videotape Recordings
IDENTIFIERS	*Play Learning

ABSTRACT

Based on the view that play builds the foundation for lifelong learning, this 3-volume set of videotapes (in English and Spanish versions) with accompanying facilitator's guide depicts a wide variety of parents/caregivers playing with infants and toddlers to highlight the importance of playing and interacting in ways that support and expand children's abilities. The program, intended for use in parent or caregiver education, shows how children's play grows hand in hand with their motor, language, and social development. The facilitator's guide offers recommendations for presenting the material and, for each volume of the series, describes viewer objectives, presents suggested activities and discussion questions, and includes photocopiable handouts summarizing information. Each videotape illustrates milestones for four developmental areas (social, language, gross motor, and fine motor) for the relevant age period, identifies activities and play that support growth in those areas, and highlights safety precautions. Volume 1 (24 minutes) of the videotapes is organized in two sections, corresponding to play from birth to 6 months and from 6 months to 12 months. Skills highlighted in Volume 1 include bonding, self-awareness, smiling, understanding words, lifting head, sitting, crawling, standing, climbing, and exploring objects. Volume 2 (18 minutes) focuses on play for supporting 12- to 14-month-olds' development of gross motor skills (walking, pushing and pulling, climbing, kicking and throwing), fine motor skills (opening/closing, filling/emptying, arts and crafts, and sand and water play), language skills (2-word sentences, simple word games, books, and songs), and social skills (independence, pretend play, interest in other children, helping). Volume 3 (16 minutes) presents play to support 2- to 3-year-olds' gross motor development (running, climbing, jumping, playground activities, games), fine motor skills (puzzles, exploring how

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things work), language development (short sentences, stories, simple songs), and social skills (imitating, helping, pretending, and playing cooperatively). (KB)

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